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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
07/980,547	11/23/92	BRINON	T MS-335.933
33M1/0524			ALEXANDER EXAMINER
JOSEPH KRIEGER MASON, KOLEHMAINEN, RATHBURN & WYSS 300 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE SUITE 2400 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606			ART UNIT 3306 PAPER NUMBER 14
			DATE MAILED: 05/24/94

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

This application has been examined Responsive to communication filed on 3/10/94 This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), 0 days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
2. Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
3. Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.
4. Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152.
5. Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.
6.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. Claims 1-13, 15-23 are pending in the application.
Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.
2. Claims 14 have been cancelled.
3. Claims 1-12, 15-23 are allowed.
4. Claims 13 are rejected.
5. Claims _____ are objected to.
6. Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.
7. This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.
8. Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.
9. The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are acceptable; not acceptable (see explanation or Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948).
10. The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____, has (have) been approved by the examiner; disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).
11. The proposed drawing correction, filed _____, has been approved; disapproved (see explanation).
12. Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has been received not been received been filed in parent application, serial no. _____; filed on _____.
13. Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
14. Other

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Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 13 is confusing because the claim recites a collection of parts but does not relate the parts to the device recited in claim 1. Furthermore, the device as is presently claimed in claim 13 seems to lack support in the specification and drawings where only one of each of the parts listed in claim 13 are assembled into one device and not a plurality of parts as claim 13 appears to recite.

Claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-5, 8-10, 12, 22, and 23 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Calzi et al and Cook et al disclose self-sealing plugs which may be used with medical connectors.

RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S ARGUMENTS

The Examiner agrees that claims 1 and 22 are generic; since these claims have been found allowable over the prior art, claims

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6, 7, 11, and 15-21 which were withdrawn from consideration have been considered and are also found allowable over the prior art.

Thus, claim 13 remains rejected; claim 14 has been cancelled; and claims 1-12 and 15-23 are allowable.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vanitha Alexander whose telephone number is (703) 308-4987.

Vanitha M. Alexander
V. Alexander/
May 18, 1994

C. Fred Rosenbaum
C. FRED ROSENBAUM
S.P.E.
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